

A

# Quaker's *Fifth* Letter,

T O T H E

Priests *and* Government, *and* Inhabitants  
of *E N G L A N D*,

Concerning the Victory of the BEAST, and  
his subtle Workings in all NATIONS of the  
Christian WORLD:

S H E W I N G,

- I. The Difference between the true Spiritual Worship of Christ and the false Worship of Antichrist.
- II. How the Kings of the Earth may give their Power to the Beast, and make War against the Lamb upon a religious Foundation.
- III. That the Laws of the Nations upon a religious Foundation are divided against each other, some in favour of Heaven, and some in favour of Hell; and by what Means the latter have gain'd the Victory.
- IV. How the Sin against the Holy Ghost is committed, and that the Judgments of God are to be pour'd down on such as are guilty thereof; being a Sin not to be forgiven in this World, neither in the World to come.

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Proved from Scripture and right Reason.

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By R. W A T T S.

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## QUAKER'S Fifth LETTER, &amp;c.

**I**T is now absolutely necessary to inform the understanding of mankind aright, in order that they may see how great a difference there is between the true spiritual worship of God which was ordained by Jesus Christ, and the invented worship of men, from the time of the first dispensation of the Gospel unto this day.

Whosoever would understand the true and acceptable worship of God, must believe in the answer of the Son of God to the woman of Samaria's question at Jacob's well concerning the place of God's worship, *That the hour cometh and now is, that whosoever worshipeth God, must worship him in spirit and in truth, for God is a spirit, and seeketh such to worship him.*

By this answer of our Saviour, all men may understand, that spiritual worship was to be performed by man even from the time our Saviour was upon earth, and is to be continued so long as the Gospel shall be preached in the world.

Now as all men do or may understand from divers parts of scripture, that no one can spiritually worship God, without his Divine grace and immediate spiritual assistance, so no reasonable man can expect to receive this inestimable favour from God, to be made a spiritual man or a true worshiper, whilst he continues in any wilful sin, for that is being at enmity with God.



This Divine grace is the Holy Ghost, which the Son of God purchased for lost mankind by his death and sufferings on the cross; a heavenly gift, which guides the true ministers by its working in their souls, and enables them not only to pray acceptably, but to preach the word of God to the edifying of the church; and the same spirit beareth witness in every man, that the true worship of God is agreeable to the scriptures and right reason.

By this way of worshipping the Divine being, men have access to the Father and the Son, through the Holy Ghost; and by this Divine assistance the primitive Christians did truly worship God. The church in the wilderness was favoured with the same gift of God, and all acceptable worshipers in the world worship God in the same spiritual way: So that all the inventions of men to worship him according to their own Notions and Conceits, must be antichristian, and of course unacceptable to the Divine Being.

But Satan, in envy to mankind, and in malice to the Son of the most High, by his subtlety contrived to deceive mankind (as he did Eve) to act against the law of their Maker, in setting up independency, and worshipping of God in their own forms. The first that transgressed in this way, under the Gospel dispensation, was the church of *Rome*, some centuries after Christianity was established; for when Satan had led them to be independent of heaven, they began to persecute the true spiritual worshipers of Christ, obtaining a law from the government to put to death all such as refused to worship God in that way and form which the priests had set up of their own wills and conceits, thereby fulfilling the prophecy, *Rev. xiii. 15.* *And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and*



*and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.* The deceiving priests that obtain'd this power were the image or likeness of the beast, and the rulers and governours, in granting this power against the spiritual worshipers, gave their power to the beast, and made war against the Lamb of God, as it was foretold by John the Divine.

By this power from the kings of the earth Satan proposed to put an end to the church of Christ and the true worship of God, as may be understood from the similitude of *the woman that brought forth the man-child.* This *woman* is the church of Christ, and the *man-child* is the spiritual power of Christ in the true spiritual worshipers, which Satan intended to destroy; but it pleased the Almighty God to cause the church to fly into the wilderness of empty professions, where it was fed with spiritual religion from heaven, which the image of the beast could not see, and so the dragon (that old serpent the devil) could have no more power to persecute the church; for I believe there are still many spiritual worshipers in the bewilder'd church of Rome, who are fed with spiritual worship from God, notwithstanding their antichristian education from their priests; and thus far have the Roman Catholicks fulfilled the prophecy of John the Divine.

The next succeeding church is that which protested against some part of the Romish religion, and kept to themselves the other part, or forms of worshiping God by the inventions of men, which is contrary to the true spiritual worship, as is plainly denoted by the *coming forth of the church out of the wilderness*; for no sooner did the spiritual worshipers appear in this nation, than they were persecuted for performing spiritual worship in their meetings, they being taken be-  
fore

fore the magistrates, and from thence hurried to most or all the Prisons of the kingdom. After a time there was rest to the church of Christ from this persecution, but another sort was still detained, namely, that all the spiritual worshipers of God should give tithes and offerings to uphold the antichristian priests, which was so extensive, that it caused all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, *to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their forehead, and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark of the name of the beast, or the number of his name*; Rev. xiii. 16, 17.

This prophecy sets forth, that under an antichristian law the whole nation, from the greatest to the least, should be compelled *to have the marks of the spiritual beast* (which is antichrist) both in their words and actions; for every man and woman, and every child above 14 years of age is obliged to give tithes and offerings (which is a plain sign of their having *the mark of the beast* upon them) and whoever refuses to comply therewith, may be put into the spiritual court, there to receive judgment that they shall not have the benefit of the law in buying or selling, but be cursed out of Christian and human unity.

In the severity of this law the priests have power given them thus to persecute, which is the will of Satan; but to fulfill the scriptures, they must have more humanity than to act in this antichristian and unreasonable manner, and thereby prevent all those true Christians, who do the will of God upon a religious foundation, from being cast into prison, there to remain the whole course of their life; without any redress from the laws of the land; for it is written in the *Revelations*, *That the earth swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth after the woman*  
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that brought forth the man child, which is the spiritual church of God, and the power of Christ with it.

But every priest that uses and enforces this power to persecute those who cannot comply to worship by the invented forms of men, but must in conscience adhere to the true spiritual worship (which cometh from above, and which alone is acceptable with God) bears the image of the beast; albeit the Almighty God of heaven and earth hath decree'd, *Rev. xiv. 9, 10, 11.* that if any man worship the beast and his image, or receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God; which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation, and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever, and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

This is the decree of heaven against all persecuting nations in the Christian world, which (if rightly considered) may give them cause to wish they had never been born; and I would ask any reasonable man whether those do not bear the image of the beast who favour idolatrous worship, by compelling the true spiritual worshipers to give tithes and offerings to the antichristian priest upon a religious foundation, and thereby to worship the beast and his image; which is contrary to the conscience of every true Christian, who is guided by the grace of God, to do; for it is against the righteous law of God, and the righteous law of nature, and the righteous law of the land, wherein there may be found this maxim, that all prescriptions, statutes and customs against the law of God and nature are void, and against justice.

Some



Some years ago I had the favour of conversing with Judge P—— (being with two others cited in the court of exchequer for non-payment of tithes) when I desired that as our cause was upon a religious foundation he would permit our council to plead the law of heaven, and the law of nature, and add thereto the law of the land. His answer was, that I should. I then reply'd, the law of heaven is, *That whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them*, and that by this law we should overcome the enemies of God and man. By which words he was made sensible, that if the Quakers had the benefit of the righteous laws of heaven and earth, it would put the priest out of all power of persecuting them any more, and so denied us that privilege, by giving judgment some time after against the defendants, in opposition to the righteous laws of heaven and earth upon a religious foundation.

Now if mankind would but rightly consider how great a sin it is to give judgment against the law of heaven upon a religious foundation, they will or may find it to be equal to the sin of Judas, when he wilfully betray'd the Son God into the hands of ungodly men, to condemn him, and for wilfully so doing his sin was unpardonable; and that every wilful persecuting priest does also thereby betray the righteous law of heaven into the hands of those who give judgment against it and condemn it.

I would have all men truly consider which of these three are the greatest sinners against heaven, Judas, in wilfully betraying his Lord and Master; the priest, for wilfully betraying the righteous law of heaven, or those who give judgment against it upon a religious foundation.

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For my own part I have consider'd all their sins, and my conscience tells me they are equal, only some difference in the hardness of their hearts, for Judas, stung with conscience immediately after he had betray'd innocent blood, cast down his reward for it, and hanged himself, not being able to endure the thoughts of his guilt.

But what may be remark'd of the persecuting priest and judge is, the full hardness of their hearts against the righteous law of heaven, in wilfully carrying on persecution after persecution, without any remorse of conscience, and cruelly giving judgment against the Quaker for doing the will of God according to conscience, not only casting him into prison, but granting a sequestration of his estate. After this was done, the Quaker petitioned the court to be released out of prison, but all in vain, and so was left to starve in goal, till the antichristian priest was satisfied. Such is the cruelty those persons are liable to, who do the will of God upon a religious foundation.

In a like affair about 15 years ago, I received a little more humanity in the court of chancery, for tho' there was a decree given to seize both my rents and goods, yet when that was done, and my council moved for my discharge out of prison, it was immediately granted; which leads me to wish that all persons would take care they are not more hard-hearted than Pharaoh was to the children of Israel (for when he saw a temporal dearth for his temporally punishing the people of God, he let them go) and then they will fear and dread a spiritual punishment by the decrees of heaven, if they disobey the will of God, and *their hearts are not so harden'd that they have not the fear of God before their eyes.*

I know it may be said, that if Judas had not laid violent hands on himself he might have repented and been saved; but this must be a mistake, for the lip of truth says, that Judas wilfully betrayed innocent blood, and that his sin was unpardonable, and so gave him the name of a *Devil*, and then he had no more share of repentance than the fallen angels in hell. And,

I verily believe, that every man who wilfully betrays the righteous law of heaven into the hands of unrighteous men to give judgment against it (if he will thoroughly examine his own conscience) will find the witness of God to testify his wilful blasphemy against the righteousness of heaven, and can no more expect pardon from the said witness of God in his conscience, than Judas or the fallen angels.

The will of God is, that all men should worship him in that spiritual way which Christ hath appointed in holy writ, and no other; that they should love mercy, act justly, and walk humbly with God, and do unto all as they would have others do unto them; but the law of all persecutions that now are, or ever were in the world, is in direct opposition to these laws of heaven, for it gives power to the unrighteous and ungodly to commit robberies and murders on the followers of Christ, contending for the benefit of the *fore*said laws of heaven.

To excuse this, some ignorant men may say, that this power is given to divines and spiritual worshipers; but let such as these prove and try them in the midst of what they call their divine worship; let them take away their books from before their eyes, and see if their devotion is not at a stand; but if they were true spiritual worshipers, the grace of God in their hearts would teach them how to preach and pray ten-fold better than the antichristians are taught by their books;



books; are they not therefore the deceivers that were foretold should come into the world, ravenous wolves in sheeps clothing?

Now when it plainly appears to the governments of the nations, that the righteous law of heaven, together with the righteous law of nature, and the righteous law of the land, and the principles of the Quakers upon a religious foundation towards the Almighty Creator, are so united together that no power on earth can part them, then are they bound in conscience to repeal the law of persecution immediately; but if they refuse to do it, 'tis to be fear'd *the sins of that nation (after such clear conviction) are full ripe, and will that hour ascend up before the throne of God, when they may expect that the judgments declared in scripture will fall upon them, Rev. xiv. 18, 19, 20. And another angel came out from the altar; which had power over fire, and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle saying, thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great wine-press of the wrath of God. And the wine-press was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the wine-press even unto the horse-bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.* This Scripture may be understood to mean the heavy judgments of God for the sin of wilful blasphemy, the greatest that can be committed against heaven, and that the nation guilty of it should be given up to their enemy, to be destroyed.

And now let government consider what a dismal cloud at present hovers over this and all other nations, if not prevented by divine providence; and a greater judgment than this is foretold to come upon the wilful persecuting nations of the earth, which in scripture is

called *Mystery, Babylon*, Rev. xxiii. 2 *The angel cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.*

By this mighty and strong voice of the angel, may be imply'd, that no power on earth can resist it, and that when the nations of the world commit the great sin of wilful persecution, then may this dreadful judgment follow, of the souls of such persecutors *becoming the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and the cage of all uncleanness*: And no man can suppose it unreasonable that this punishment should remain immutable to all eternity, for wilfully fighting against heaven, because this sin must be committed by the spirit of Belzebub; and if God is not pleased to cast out this spirit, man cannot, and so it will continue till death, and then carry the soul to hell, to receive its portion with the prince of darkness; for we may understand by scripture, that there are various degrees of torments, and that the greatest hypocrites have the greatest damnation, and what can be a greater hypocrisy, than for those who profess Christianity to make war against it by wilful persecution?

If in answer to all this any man should say, there will be no redress, because many great men are interested in tithes, the b——s in great power, and the crown'd head himself sworn to uphold the laws of the land, of which no man can be more tenacious; I refer (in reply) to the power of heaven, which declares, that *Mystery, Babylon* (which is persecution) *shall fall as the fall of a millstone when cast into the deep of the sea, which hath no power to raise itself again*; to which I must add, that his present majesty is of a Christian and merciful disposition, and is willing to do all in his power to prevent every kind of persecution.

This his great and good character is firmly believed by our society, as well as by all his other dutiful subjects, yet some friends are of opinion that he cannot do it without consent of parliament; but I am fully convinced, that as the righteous law of the land (which says that all prescriptions, statutes and customs against the laws of God and nature are contrary to justice) makes void the unrighteous and persecuting law of tithes, for the reason above-mention'd the king hath great power to send forth his decree, commanding that all his dutiful subjects the Quakers shall have the benefit of the righteous law of heaven, and the righteous law of nature, and the righteous law of the land.

And if our Christian king will please to grant us this heavenly favour, then shall every righteous man in the nation give praise and honour, and extol his name above all other kings of the earth, and the wicked and ungodly will not be able to open their mouths against his righteousness, who is an instrument (under the Divine Being) to deliver the spiritual worshippers of God from cruel persecution; as Moses was an instrument to deliver the children of Israel out of Egypt's bondage, from whence they went out so quiet, that there was not a dog in all the land that open'd his mouth against them; and we may learn from scripture that those are so called who are *without* the bounds of true Christianity, Rev. xxii. 15. *For without are dogs and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolators, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lye.*

Now who are these that are *without*, but such who by their persecuting spirit (tho' they may pretend perhaps to be the true spiritual worshippers, *the true bride, the Lamb's wife*) have committed fornication with the whore of *Babylon*, in causing many thousands to be put to death by their bewitching and deluding antichristian power,



power, and forcing the spiritual worshipers to maintain and uphold a form of worship invented by men? which is idolatry and antichristian, for in so doing they serve antichrist upon a religious foundation, and therein worship the beast and his image, which God hath forbidden under the penalty of eternal death; for persecution proceeds from the will of Satan, from the ungodly mind of his ministers, and from the ungodliness of the world; all which powers unite themselves together to punish the righteous for doing the will of God upon a religious foundation, which is a spiritual war against heaven; wherefore all those who are persecutors, and wilful blasphemers of the righteousness of heaven, and all such who wilfully give judgment against it, commit the sin of Belzebub, and will be tormented according to their abominations with the chief of the devils to all eternity; and in their torments they will acknowledge the justice of God's judgments upon them, and will then see in a clear light that they deserved them, for their wilful persecution of and giving judgment against the righteous law of God upon a religious foundation.

But if the government of the nations will manifest to the world, their desire that Christ should reign in righteousness on earth as he does in heaven, by granting the Quakers the benefit of the righteous law of heaven and the righteous law of nature, without fines and imprisonments, then will the unpardonable sin be avoided, and the heavy judgments of God upon it; agreeable to that portion of scripture under the similitude of the ten horns, which says, that *these ten horns shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and eat her flesh, and burn her with fire*, Rev. xvii. 16. These are the same horns, that have changed their wills, as we may read in the 12th, 13th and 14th verses. *And the ten horns, which thou sawest, are ten kings, which*

*have received no kingdom as yet ; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them ; for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings ; and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.*

These horns last mentioned set forth persecution in the consciences of all those who empower or administer the law of persecution, it being from a deluded conscience or mistaken opinion that they issue their decrees, which may be liken'd to horns, to hurt the people of God in their circumstances, liberty and life ; but when their minds are turn'd heaven-wards, and they see their mistake, then will they *hate* persecution, under the similitude of the *rebore*, and make the power of it *desolate* (without pity) and *naked* (without power) and will destroy her earthly desires, and burn her up with indignation ; which will certainly gain them the good-will and protection of heaven : For persecution is undeniably the power of antichrist in every member throughout the whole body of persecutors, to lead men into a spiritual war *against* heaven ; tho' the foolish members may think to act a part in this blasphemous war, without giving an account at the day of judgment, so long as they have their authority from government, yet the wise say they are all led to believe the contrary by the witness of truth in their own consciences.

And now I come to lay my humble petition before the conscience of our merciful king (who is set upon the throne by the Majesty of heaven, to be a defender of the Christian faith and righteous law of heaven, and who in tender mercy grants his gracious pardon to thieves and robbers, and other transgressors of moral laws, when a good reason is given in their favour) that  
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if the Quakers have rebelled against what they esteem an unrighteous and persecuting law, they may plead in their favour that it was the righteous law of heaven, and the righteous law of nature, and the righteous law of the land, that led them to it ; which they hope their gracious and Christian king will think a sufficient reason for pardon and protection from any further punishment in persecution.

Permit me therefore, O king, humbly to beseech thee to send forth a decree throughout thy dominions, to protect us Quakers from being any more punished for doing our religious duty to God ; and let me further petition thee, O king, that thou wouldst be so heaven-like minded as to grant me thy protection, to guard me from the decree of those who will send my body to prison, and give my goods to the cruel destroyers, for no other reason that can be given by man, but that of refusing to uphold idolatrous worship : So shall the whole society as well as myself be more particularly in duty bound to pray to the Almighty to protect and preserve thy royal person and dignity from all secret or open enemies abroad or at home.

And I further beseech thee, O king, that I may be permitted to wait, to hear from some proper person whether I am so happy as to obtain thy royal favour and protection, or not ; for without thy relief and assistance I expect as soon as I get home that the bailiffs will carry my body to prison, and afterwards make cruel havock of my goods and estate, for only doing my Christian duty. I am, O king,

*Thy most loyal and dutiful subject,*

RICHARD WATTS



## SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

## Foregoing LETTER.

**A**S many as read my letter with a right understanding will know, that when the Quakers have the benefit of the righteous law of heaven and the righteous law of nature, they will be a free people from all kind of persecution; and till then mankind may know that the law of the nation gives judgment against the true spiritual worship and the true worshipers, in compelling them to be subject to the will of man contrary to the will of God, and in upholding idolatrous worship above the true spiritual worship of Christ. This sin willfully committed against the righteousness of heaven is the sin committed upon the house-top, which no man can ever come down to repent of; and those that are in the field at plow, to sow this unrighteousness, cannot look back with repentance for mercy, and woe will be to that nation that is with child or gives suck to their abominations: *For in that day two women shall be grinding at a mill, when the one shall be taken and the other left.*

These two women are two kingdoms that are found grinding the face of the poor and the people of God with priestcraft and persecution, and it is reasonable to believe that after any nation hath had timely warning of this sin, and will not repent, that they must be taken  
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under the judgment of God; and the other will be left to make war against them, to execute the decrees of heaven upon them; for by this way it appears in scripture that *Mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of harlots, and the abomination of the earth,* will be cast down.

This signifies the fall of priestcraft and persecution all the world over, which is that despicable whore that the Almighty doth hate and will judge according to prophecy, which time I believe to be near at hand. Then happy will it be for the kings of the earth that stand afar off to behold the smok of her burnings; and then the merchants of the Gospel themselves who were made rich by priestcraft and persecution shall stand afar off for fear of her torments, weeping and wailing and saying, *In one hour is so great riches come to naught?* Rev. xviii. where much more may be read of the great desolation of the merchants of *Mystery Babylon*, when their merchandise will be no more purchased, and *the sound of a millstone* (in persecution) *shall be heard no more at all in thee.* In these prophecies will be an end of the power of Satan in priestcraft and persecution (that hath so much deceived the nations of the world) to the great joy of heaven and earth.

And after these prophecies *John saw the holy city new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband,* Rev. xxi. 2. and farther on it may be understood that this heavenly Jerusalem is the righteousness and power of God, to come upon all nations of the earth, when Christ will reign in spirit a thousand years, above the spiritual power of Satan, and all nations may have union and communion with God and Christ, in that spirit which is from heaven. At that time the Jews will have the same favour as the primitive church had, before the Roman church took it into their heads to set up priestcraft,

cr... to chuse Satan to be their god and guide, who... them to persecute the saints (which was a spiritual war against the Lamb) as the only way to merit heaven; and this blasphemous sin Satan hath led the Papists to believe to be a merit to this day.

But let the Papists consider the heavy judgments from heaven upon the city of Lisbon, on the day that they took to themselves an image, and deck'd it with diamonds of many thousand pounds value, condemning as hereticks all those who would not fall down and worship it, wherefore the Protestants went out of the city, to avoid partaking of their idolatrous worship, in opposition to the second commandment; and on the same day also on which they condemned the Jews to be burnt to death, for not being of their faith and persuasion, thereby wresting the power out of God's hands, who says, that *Vengeance is mine, and I will repay it*. On this day, I say, the condemned Jews and Protestants were delivered, for the heavy judgment of God destroy'd the city, and many thousands were bury'd in the ruins of it, on this great and high day of idolatry and persecution. Therefore let this be a warning to all nations, but more particularly to this land, that they do not wilfully uphold idolatry and persecution, lest a greater judgment should fall upon them.

N. B. If there are any among those that profess spiritual worship who don't believe I have the gift to understand the deep mysteries of the *Revelations*, let them consider that I interpret all the spiritual blessings contained in that book to relate to the true spiritual worshippers, and that all the spiritual cursings and heavy judgments in wars or earthquakes will fall upon those nations that wilfully uphold persecution.

P. S.



P. S. As I have already said so I conclude, that if the king and government will be pleased to grant to the true spiritual worshipers the benefit of the righteous law of heaven, and the righteous law of nature upon a religious foundation, then will the Quakers be free from every kind of persecution, and that spiritual war be at an end that is carry'd on by persecution against the Lamb of God; which will be the greatest honour to the Majesty of heaven, and the greatest good to mankind, that ever was known to be done in any nation.

On the other hand, if they will say in their hearts that the righteousness of heaven in this case shall not reign in the nation, the moment this thought is conceived in their hearts, at that very instant it will ascend up before the throne of God: And will it not then be reasonable for mankind to believe, that the angel will be sent forth out of the temple of God, *Crying with a loud voice to reap, for the harvest of the earth is full ripe.* And again, *The earth was to be reaped, and cast into the wine press of the wrath of God, from whence blood came forth 1000 furlongs.* Now (as I understand it) the first cutting down will be cutting the nation off from the favour of God (agreeable to other scriptures) for wilfully denying God's righteousness to dwell upon earth; and the second cutting down will be in God's anger to give them up to an enemy to destroy them by war and bloodshed, &c. for this sin (wilfully committed, in a right understanding of it) is a much greater sin against heaven than the sin of Lisbon was, in their dark night of apostacy, not knowing what they did, being under the delusion of priestcraft; but God's judgment came upon them, for suffering themselves to be so much imposed upon by the priests, and for not being guided by the righteous gift of God in themselves, which is able to teach them much better how to worship God than to worship him by an image of their own making.